

X Original Amendment

U.S. House of Representatives
112th Congress

2011 OCT 14 PM 4:06

OFFICE OF CLERK
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MEMBER / OFFICER
POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from a private source for meetings, speaking engagements, fact-finding trips or similar events in connection with official duties. You need not disclose government-funded or political travel on this form, or travel that is unrelated to official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report all privately-funded travel on the Member or officer's annual Financial Disclosure Statement. In accordance with clause 5 of House Rule 25, complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House of Representatives, B-106 Cannon House Office Building, within **15 days** after travel is completed. The Clerk is to make these forms available to the public as soon as possible after they are received. *Obtain the dollar amounts from the sponsor; if exact dollar amounts are unavailable, provide a good faith estimate.*

Name of Member or Officer (print or type): DANIEL LIPINSKI

Name of Accompanying Family Member (if any): JUDITH LIPINSKI

Relationship to Member/Officer: ☒ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____

Date of Departure and Date of Return: 9/23/2011 - 10/1/2011

Dates at personal expense: N/A

Itinerary (cities of departure – destination – return): CHICAGO, IL / ISTANBUL, TURKEY / CHICAGO, IL

Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): TURKISH AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MIDWEST

Describe meetings and events attended (attach additional pages if necessary): Met with local political figures
and media to learn about their perspectives of US-Turkish relations and see firsthand the current
developments (final itinerary attached)

Attached to this form are EACH of the following (*signify "yes" for each item by checking the corresponding box*):

1. ☒ the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form completed by trip sponsor, including all attachments;
2. ☒ the Privately-Sponsored Travel Approval Form completed by the Member or officer; **and**
3. ☒ the Committee on Ethics letter approving my participation on this trip.

I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the sponsor's agenda (*signify "yes" by checking box*): ☒

If not, explain: _____

nd

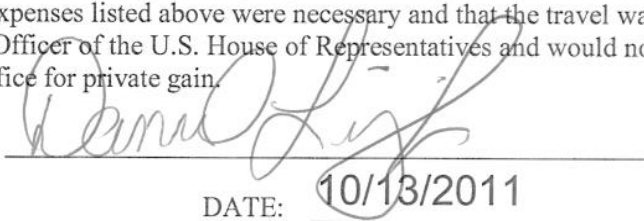
TRIP EXPENSES:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses
For Member or Officer:	8040.10	1240	420
For accompanying family member:	8040.10	1240	420

	Other Expenses (dollar amount)	Specific Nature of Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For Member or Officer:	330	parking and museum entrance fees
For accompanying family member:	330	parking and museum entrance fees

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have determined that all of the expenses listed above were necessary and that the travel was in connection with my duties as a Member or Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives and would not create the appearance that I am using public office for private gain.

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER OR OFFICER:



DATE:

10/13/2011

Version date 1/2011 by Committee on Ethics

Actual tinal Itinerary

Date &	City	Notes
23-Sep. Friday	CHICAGO	
8:30 PM		Meet at the counter of Turkish Airlines / O'Hare Int'l. Airport
10:55 PM		Depart from Chicago to Istanbul - Fly with Turkish Airlines TK006
24-Sep. Saturday	ISTANBUL	
4:10 PM		Arrive at Istanbul Ataturk Airport
6:00 PM		Check-in hotel
7:00 PM		Dinner
9:30 PM		Return to hotel
		Overnight in Istanbul
25-Sep. Sunday	ISTANBUL	
7:00 - 8:00 AM		Breakfast at Hotel
8:00 AM		Lecture #1 by Historian on the Byzantium, Ottoman Empires and Modern Turkish History @ Hotel Conference
9:30 AM		Cultural Site Visits to Topkapi Palace And Hagia Sophia Museum
1:00 PM		Lunch at Historical Sultan Ahmet Square
2:00 PM		Cultural Site Visits to Blue Mosque, Hippodrome Square
4:00 PM		Back to Hotel
5:30 PM		Meet at the Hotel Lobby
6:00 PM		Bosphorus Tour with Turkish Exporters
		Visit a Local Turkish Family
10:00 PM		Back to Hotel
		Overnight in Istanbul
26-Sep. Monday	ISTANBUL	
7:00 - 8:00 AM		Breakfast at the Hotel
8:30 AM		Visit Greek Orthodox Patriarchate & Attend the morning mass: Debrief on Christian Minority Issues in Turkey
11:00 AM		Lecture #2 by Turkish journalists on "Democracy and Freedom of Press in Turkey" @ ZAMAN Newspaper
12:30 PM		Lunch
1:30 PM		Lecture #3 on Turkey's Development, Trade and Business at the Cultural Introduction @ ISPAT: The Republic of Turkey Prime Ministry Investment Support and Promotion Agency of Turkey
3:00 PM		Take the Bosphorus Bridge by bus to the Asian Continent
4:30 PM		Lecture #4 on Social Movements & Intercultural Dialog Efforts in Turkiye @ the Journalists and Writers
6:00 PM		Drive to Sabiha Gokcen Airport (SAW)
8:15 PM		Fly to Ankara
9:15 PM		Arrive at Esenboga Airport in Ankara
10:00 PM		Check in Hotel in Ankara
		Overnight in Ankara

27-Sep. Tuesday	ANKARA	
8:00 AM		Visit Ankara Municipality: Briefing on municipal policies in Turkey
10:00 AM		Visit Ministry of EU Affairs
10:00 AM		Lecture #5 on Turkey as a regional power; Turkey's relationship with the European Union
11:30 AM		Visit Ataturk's Mausoleum
1:00 PM		Lunch with Omer Celik, Parliamentarian
2:30 PM		Meet with Ambassador Francis J. Ricciardone, US Embassy: Debriefing about Turkish-US Relations
4:30 PM		Visit the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Debrief on Recent Developments in the region, Arab Spring and the Syrian
5:30 PM		Return to hotel
7:30 PM		Dinner
10:00 PM		Return to hotel
		Overnight in Ankara
28-Sep.	IZMIR	
6:00 AM - 7:30		Breakfast at Hotel in Ankara
7:30 AM		Meet at the Hotel Lobby to go to Esenboga Airport
9:20 AM		Fly from Ankara to Izmir
10:40 AM		Arrive at Izmir Adnan Menderes Airport
11:00 AM		Drive directly to the ruins of Ephesos
		Lecture #6 on Turkish Pottery and Ceramics: History of figures and colors at the Ceramics Art Center
12:00 PM		Lunch roundtable with Mayor of Selcuk city and Turkish Businessmen
1:00 PM		Visit Virgin Mary's House
2:00 PM		Visit the ruins of Ephesos Ancient city
5:00 PM		Depart from Ephesos to Izmir
6:30 PM		Arrive at Izmir Adnan Menderes Airport
7:55 PM		Fly from Izmir to Gaziantep
9:35 PM		Arrive Gaziantep
10:00 PM		Check-in hotel
		Overnight in Gaziantep
29-Sep.	GAZIANTEP -	
7:30 AM		Breakfast at Hotel in Gaziantep
8:30 AM		Meet at the Hotel Lobby
9:00 AM		Lecture #7 by Gokhan Bacik on Kurdish Issues and Democratization Process in South East Turkey at ZIRVE
10:00 AM		Visit Zirve University: Debrief on Higher Educational System in Turkiye / Meet with President and Academicians
11:30 AM		Visit Local, Historical Copper Bazaar - Bakircilar Carsisi
12:30 PM		Visit Governor of Gaziantep: Debrief on social issues in South East part of Turkey: Kurdish-Turkish relations in
1:30 PM		Drive to Urfa - 144 Kilometers / 90 Miles
3:00 PM		Arrive Urfa
		Visit Balikliqol (Fish Pool)

		Visit Prophet Abraham's Birth Cave
		Visit Gobekli-tepe (Potbelly Hill) - 12,000 years history
6:00 PM		Check in Hotel in URFA
7:30 PM		Attend a Cultural Ceremony of URFA
9:00 PM		Back to Hotel
		Overnight in URFA
30-Sep. Friday	ISTANBUL	
6:00 AM - 8:30		Breakfast at Hotel
9:45 AM		Fly from Urfa to Istanbul
11:40 AM		Arrive Istanbul Ataturk Airport
12:30 PM		Check in Hotel in Istanbul
		Visit Dolmabahce Palace - <i>OPTIONAL</i>
		Cultural Exploration at Historical Grand Bazaar - <i>OPTIONAL</i>
5:00 PM		Meet at the Hotel Lobby
5:30 PM		Visit His Excellency Egemen Bagis, Minister of EU Affairs & Chief Negotiator
6:30 PM		Meet at the Hotel Lobby
7:30 PM		Dinner Meeting with Journalist Mr. Mustafa Akyol Discussion on Turkish Media and Politics
9:00 PM		Back to Hotel
1-Oct. Saturday	Istanbul	
7:00 AM		Breakfast at hotel
11:20 AM	TK005	Flight to Chicago

Sypolt, Jennifer

From: sturhano@gmail.com on behalf of SULEYMAN TURHAN [sturhan@turkishfederation.org]
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2011 1:10 PM
To: Sypolt, Jennifer
Subject: Actual expenses
Attachments: Cong. Lipinski Actual Itinerary.xls

Hi Jennifer. Below are the expenses per person:

Total transportation:\$8,040.10

Lodging: \$1,240

Meals: \$420

Other expenses (parking and museum entrance fees): \$330

I also attached the actual itinerary.

Best,

Suleyman

--

Suleyman Turhan

President

Turkish American Federation of Midwest

501 Midway Dr. Mount Prospect, IL 60056

P: (847) 227-8380

F: (847) 789-0043

M: (312) 215-2337

www.turkishfederation.org

Jo Bonner, Alabama
Chairman
Linda T. Sánchez, California
Ranking Member



ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

September 12, 2011

Michael T. McCaul, Texas
K. Michael Conaway, Texas
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Gregg Harper, Mississippi

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Joanne White
Administrative Staff Director

Kelle A. Strickland
Counsel to the Chairman

Daniel J. Taylor
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
Telephone: (202) 225-7103
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

The Honorable Daniel Lipinski
U.S. House of Representatives
1717 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Colleague:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your and your spouse's proposed trip to Turkey, scheduled for September 23, 2011, to October 1, 2011, sponsored by the Turkish American Federation of Midwest.

You must complete a Member Travel Disclosure Form and file it with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are required to attach a copy of this letter and the Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form, including attachments. You must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$350 from a single source on Schedule VII of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House Members may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act, gifts "of minimal value [currently \$350] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of \$350 received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

Jo Bonner
Chairman

Linda T. Sánchez
Ranking Member

JB/LTS:tn

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL: TRAVELER FORM
For Members, Officers, and Employees

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection. *Please type form. Form (and any attachments) may be faxed to the Committee at (202) 225-7392.*

YOUR COMPLETED REQUEST MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE COMMITTEE NO LESS THAN 14 DAYS BEFORE YOUR PROPOSED DEPARTURE DATE. Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 14 days before the trip commences.

Name of Traveler: DANIEL LIPINSKI

I certify that the information contained on both pages of this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): _____

For staff, name of employing Member/Committee: _____

Office address: 1717 LONGWORTH BUILDING

Phone number: 202-225-5701

Email address of contact person: JENNIFER.SYPOLT@MAIL.HOUSE.GOV

- ☐ Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet and the traveler is a Member traveling to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity and these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 14 days before the trip departure date.

NOTE: You must complete the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee:

Committee on Ethics
U.S. House of Representatives
1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-7103 (phone)
(202) 225-7392 (fax)

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics

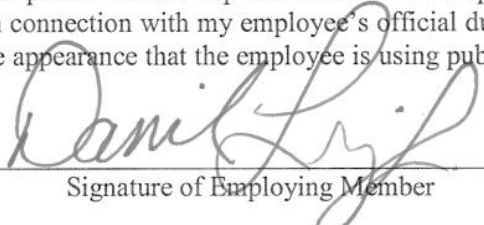
PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL: TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: DANIEL LIPINSKI
2. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): Turkish American Federation of Midwest
3. Travel destination(s): DC or CHICAGO / TURKEY / CHICAGO
4. a. Date of Departure and Date of Return: 9/24/2011 - 10/2/2011
- b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- If yes, dates at personal expense: _____
5. a. Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? ☒ Yes ☐ No
- b. If yes, name of accompanying family member: JUDITH LIPINSKI
- c. Relationship to traveler: ☒ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): _____
6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "yes" to Question 9(c) on the Trip Sponsor form (i.e., the travel is being sponsored by an entity that employs a lobbyist)? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- b. If yes, check one of the following: ☐ N/A – Sponsor checked 9(a) or 9(b)
- (1) Approval for one-night's lodging and meals is being requested: ☐ or
- (2) Approval for two-nights' lodging and meals is being requested: ☐
- If "(2)" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____
7. Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments (indicate that form is attached by checking box): ☒
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to your individual official or representational duties:
As a Co-Chair of the Central and Eastern European Caucus, Congressman Lipinski will meet with Members of the Parliament, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, American Embassy, Business Associations, governors and mayors regarding US relations with Turkey.

9. **FOR STAFF:
TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR EMPLOYING MEMBER:**

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Date: 8/16/2011


Signature of Employing Member

NOTE: This page must be submitted with your post-travel disclosure form within 15 days of your return, so you should maintain a photocopy of the completed form for your records.

**U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Ethics**

**PRIVATE SPONSOR TRAVEL CERTIFICATION FORM
(provide directly to each House invitee)**

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers or employees under House Rule XXV, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee.

Private sponsors are urged to submit this form to each House invitee at least 30 days before travel is scheduled to begin. The failure to provide the Committee with adequate time to review the form and attachments may result in the invitee not receiving approval for the trip. The submission of an incomplete form will delay the review process. Before completing this form, sponsors are urged to carefully review the Committee's private travel guidelines and advisory memoranda detailing the rules and restrictions for private travel, as well as the instructions for completing this form. Sponsors should call the Committee with any questions prior to submitting the form. Please type form.

1. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): Turkish American Federation of Midwest (TAFM)
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a federally-registered lobbyist or a registered foreign agent (signify "yes" by checking box): ☒
3. I represent that the trip sponsor(s) has not accepted from any other source funds earmarked directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip (signify "yes" by checking box): ☒
4. Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)? ☒ Yes ☐ No
5. Provide names and titles of ALL House invitees; for each invitee, provide explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): We invited Congressman Daniel Lipinski and his spouse Judy Lipinski to explore Turkey in order to have a better understanding about this strategic US ally and its social, economic and political significance.
6. Dates of travel: September 23 - October 1, 2011
7. Cities of departure – destination – return: Washington DC, Istanbul, Chicago
8. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities taking place during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities) (signify "yes" by checking box): ☒
9. I represent that (check one of the following):
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: ☐ or
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist or registered foreign agent: ☒ or
 - c. The trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations. ☐
10. If travel is for participation in a one-day event (i.e., if you checked Question 9(c)), check one of the following:
 - a. One-night's lodging and meals are being offered: ☐ or
 - b. Two-nights' lodging and meals are being offered: ☐If "b" is checked, explain why the second night is warranted: _____

11. If the trip is not sponsored by an institution of higher education, I represent that a federally-registered lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (*signify "yes" by checking box*): ☒
12. Private sponsors must have a direct and immediate relationship to the purpose of the trip or location being visited. Describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip: TAFM aims to promote mutual understanding through interaction between the members of the US Congress and Turkish people and officials.
13. Describe each sponsor's organizational interest in the purpose of the trip: The purpose of the trip is to provide the attendees a first-hand experience to explore political, economic and social issues in Turkey.
14. Describe the type and class of the transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first-class transportation will be provided. In addition, for travel via aircraft, please indicate if travel is being offered on a commercial flight, chartered flight or on an aircraft operated or paid for by a carrier not licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration to operate for compensation or hire (*i.e.*, a private aircraft). If first-class fare is being provided, or if travel is via chartered or private aircraft, please provide an explanation describing why such travel is warranted: Air travel (commercial business class) and ground
15. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (*signify "yes" by checking box*): ☒
16. I represent that either (*check one of the following*):
- The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: ☐ *or*
 - The trip involves events that are arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation: ☒
If "b" is checked, detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): \$50
17. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: Turkey is historically a strategic ally of the US in regards to its policies in Middle East and Europe.
18. Name of hotel or other lodging facility: Istanbul Crowne Plaza, Ankara Rixos, Urfa Dedeman, Mardin Erdoba
19. Cost per night of hotel or other lodging facility (approximate cost may be provided): Crown Plaza \$195, Rixos \$188 Dedeman \$137, Erdoba \$150 per night.
20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility: Location and affordability


21. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total <i>Transportation</i> Expenses per Participant	Total <i>Lodging</i> Expenses per Participant	Total <i>Meal</i> Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$7,869.10, \$300 ground	\$1,255	\$400
For each accompanying family member	\$7,869.10, \$300 ground	\$1,255	\$400

	<i>Other</i> Expenses (dollar amount)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (<i>e.g.</i> , taxi, parking, registration fee, <i>etc.</i>)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$350	parking, museum entrance fees, <i>etc.</i>
For each accompanying family member	\$350	parking, museum entrance fees, <i>etc.</i>

22. I represent that reimbursement for miscellaneous travel expenses for the trip, such as travel to and from airports, security costs, interpreter fees, visa application fees, and similar expenses, will be for actual costs incurred and are necessary for the purpose of the trip (*signify "yes" by checking box*): ☒

23. I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name and title: Suleyman Turhanogullari, President

Organization: Turkish American Federation of Midwest (TAFM)

Address: 501 Midway Dr. Mount Prospect, IL 60056

Telephone number: 312-215-2337

Fax number: 847-789-0043

Email Address: sturhan@turkishfederation.org

The Committee staff may contact the above individual above if additional information is required.

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Ethics
U.S. House of Representatives
1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-7103 (phone)
(202) 225-7392 (fax)

Version date 3/2011 by Committee on Ethics



TURKISH AMERICAN
FEDERATION OF MIDWEST

Turkey Trip for Congressional Members

September 23 – October 1, 2011



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Honorable Daniel Lipinski,

We would be extremely delighted and have the utmost pleasure in having you attend our Congressional Member Trip to The Republic of Turkey. We believe and hope that this trip will be an unforgettable journey, from the history and culture to the warm hospitality of the people.

This letter includes terms and conditions of the bipartisan Congressional Member Trip offered by the Turkish American Federation of Midwest (TAFM). The Congressional Member Trip invites Honorable US Senators and US House of Representatives.

This trip will take place between September 23rd and October 1st. The participants will depart on Friday, September 23rd, from Washington DC Dulles International Airport, and return back to Chicago O'Hare International Airport on Saturday, October 1st.

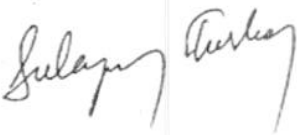
Trip Cost

All trip costs including roundtrip from **Washington DC** to **ISTANBUL** and back to **CHICAGO** will be covered by TAFM. In case of an unforeseen event that would require you to cancel the trip after you have accepted, please contact us immediately.

Alternative dates

In case you cannot make the trip on the specified dates, TAFM is happy to consider another time frame. If you would like to receive more information on other dates please contact us.

There will be an orientation meeting in which a tentative itinerary will be discussed, useful tips for the trip will be presented, and questions regarding the trip will be answered. If you are interested in joining the trip this year please fill out the form below and email/fax it to TAFM.



Suleyman Turhan
President
Turkish American Federation of Midwest (TAFM)

INTRODUCTION

Program Sponsor:

Turkish American Federation of Midwest (TAFM)

TAFM is established as a non-governmental, not-for-profit organization with the mere purpose of bringing people together with interest in the American and Turkish cultures. TAFM is a leading, independent and an umbrella organization committed to advancing the interaction among American and Turkish people to promote and encourage continuing good relationship and understanding through its affiliate organizations regardless of their ethnic origin, religion and other preferences. TAFM brings people together by hosting public programs and private events featuring leaders and experts with diverse views on a wide range of global and regional topics through task forces, executive forums, luncheons, conferences, studies, and leadership dialogue. TAFM's mission is to promote the cultural, educational, academic, business, social and arts relations and to organize events and activities to bring together the American and Turkish communities within the US

There are 43 non-profit and non-governmental member organizations united under TAFM in the states of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, S. Dakota and N. Dakota.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Suleyman Turhan
President
TAFM
501 Midway Dr. Mount Prospect, IL 60056
Work: (847) 227-8380
Fax: (847) 789-0043
sturhan@turkishfederation.org
www.turkishfederation.org

PROJECT SUMMARY

Turkish American Federation of Midwest (TAFM) organizes Congressional Members trip to Turkey, which invites Honorable US Senators and US House of Representatives between September 23rd – October 1st, 2011.

TAFM has outlined the following specific objectives for the project

- ✦ To introduce and provide broad exposure to cultural, social, economic, educational and political issues in Turkey.
- ✦ To gain an understanding of relevant topics including Turkey's trade, economic development & finance, remarkable educational achievements of Turkish civil society, religious diversity, minority rights and foreign policy.
- ✦ To promote intercultural understanding through dialogue and discussion among American and Turkish participants.

TURKEY IN BRIEF

Official Name of Country	Republic of Turkey
Capital City	Ankara
Government	Parliamentary Democracy
Population	74 million (2010)
Labor Force (Population)	25.9 million (October 2010)
Median Age	29.2 (2010)
Official Language	Turkish
President	Abdullah Gul
Prime Minister	Recep Tayyip Erdogan
Area	783,562.38 km ²
Time Zone	GMT +2
Neighboring Countries	Bulgaria, Greece, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia
Major Cities (Population)	Istanbul (13.3 million), Ankara (4.8 million), Izmir (3.9 million), Bursa (2.6 million), Adana (2.1)
Climate	Temperate; hot, dry summers with mild, wet winters
Telephone Code	90
Country Code Top-Level Domain	.tr
Electricity Voltage	220 V, 50 Hz
Currency	Turkish Lira (TRY) 1\$=1.5
Financial Center	Istanbul

GDP	USD 736 billion (2010 - Current Prices)
GDP Per Capita	USD 10,079 (2010)
Exports Value	USD 114 billion (2010)
Imports Value	USD 185 billion (2010)
Tourism Revenue	USD 20.8 billion (2010)
Tourist Number	28.5 million people (2010)
Foreign Direct Investment	USD 9.1 billion (2010)
Number of Companies with Foreign Capital	25,500 (2010)
Inflation Rate	6.4% (CPI - 2010)
Major Exports Markets	Germany (10.1%); UK (6.3%); Italy (5.7%); Iraq (5.3%); France (5.3%) (2010)
Major Imports Sources	Russia (11.6%); Germany (9.5%); China (9.3%); USA (6.6%); Italy (5.5%) (2010)
Trade Agreements	Free Trade Agreements with Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, EFTA member countries (Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein), Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Macedonia, Montenegro, Morocco, Palestine, Serbia, Syria, Tunisia
Traffic Flow	Right
Airports	45 (13 international)



Date & Time	City	Notes
23-Sep. Friday	Washington DC	
8:30 PM		Dulles Int'l. Airport
10:55 PM		Depart from Washington DC to Istanbul - Fly with Turkish Airlines TK008
24-Sep. Saturday	ISTANBUL	
4:10 PM		Arrive at Istanbul Ataturk Airport
6:00 PM		Check-in hotel
7:00 PM		Dinner
9:30 PM		Return to hotel
		Overnight in Istanbul
25-Sep. Sunday	ISTANBUL	
7:00 - 8:00 AM		Breakfast at Hotel
8:00 AM		<i>Lecture #1 by Historian on the Byzantium, Ottoman Empires and Modern Turkish History @ Hotel Conference Room</i>
9:30 AM		Cultural Site Visits to Topkapi Palace And Hagia Sophia Museum
1:00 PM		Lunch at Historical Sultan Ahmet Square
2:00 PM		Cultural Site Visits to Blue Mosque, Hippodrome Square
4:00 PM		Back to Hotel
5:30 PM		Meet at the Hotel Lobby
6:00 PM		Bosphorus Boat Tour and Dinner Experience with a Local Turkish Family
10:00 PM		Back to Hotel
		Overnight in Istanbul

26-Sep. Monday	ISTANBUL	
7:00 - 8:00 AM		Breakfast at Hotel
9:00 AM		<i>Lecture #2 on Turkey's Development, Trade and Business at the Cultural Promotion Office of Prime Ministry of Turkey</i>
11:00 AM		<i>Lecture #3 by Turkish journalists on "Democracy and Freedom of Press in Turkey" at ZAMAN Newspaper</i>
12:30 PM		Lunch
2:00 PM		Meet with His All Holiness, Bartholomew, Greek Orthodox Patriarch: Debrief on Christian Minority Issues in Turkey
3:30 PM		Take the Bosphorus Bridge by bus to the Asian Continent
4:30 PM		<i>Lecture #4 on Social Movements & Intercultural Dialog Efforts in Turkey @ the Journalists and Writers Foundation</i>
6:00 PM		Drive to Sabiha Gokcen Airport (SAW)
8:15 PM	Turkish Airlines - TK2906	Fly to Ankara
9:15 PM		Arrive at Esenboga Airport in Ankara
10:00 PM		Check in Hotel in Ankara
		Overnight in Ankara
27-Sep. Tuesday	ANKARA	
7:00 - 8:00 AM		Breakfast at hotel in Ankara
9:00 AM		<i>Lecture #5 on Turkey as a regional power; Turkey's relationship with the US; Turkey and the European Union</i>
10:00 AM		Meet at the Hotel Lobby
		Visit Ataturk's Mausoleum
10:30 AM		Visit Turkish Parliament - Grand National Assembly of Republic of Turkey
11:00 AM		<i>Attend Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan's Weekly address to Parliamentarians (to be confirmed 3 days prior)</i>
11:30 AM		<i>Lecture on Turkish Parliamentary System</i>
12:30 PM		Brief Parliament tour

1:00 PM		<i>Meet with the Speaker of the Parliament: Debrief on Recent General Elections and Challenges in the new term[to be confirmed 3 days prior]</i>
2:30 PM		<i>Meet with Ambassador Francis J. Ricciardone, US Embassy: Debriefing about Turkish-US Relations</i>
4:00 PM		<i>Visit the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Debrief on Recent Developments in the region, Arab Spring</i>
5:30 PM		Return to hotel
7:30 PM		Dinner with Members of the Turkish Parliament - Turkish Politics
10:00 PM		Return to hotel
		Overnight in Ankara
3/23/11, Wed	IZMIR	
6:00 AM - 7:30 AM		Breakfast at Hotel in Ankara
7:30 AM		Meet at the Hotel Lobby to go to Esenboga Airport
9:20 AM	Turkish Airlines - TK7002	Fly from Ankara to Izmir
10:40 AM		Arrive at Izmir Adnan Menderes Airport
11:00 AM		Drive directly to the ruins of Ephesos
		<i>Lecture #6 on Turkish Traditional Art: History of figures and colors at the Ceramics Art Center</i>
12:00 PM		Meet with Mayor of Selcuk - Learn about municipal works and history of the city
1:00 PM		Visit Virgin Mary's House - Explore about Early Christian History
2:00 PM		Visit the ruins of Ephesos Ancient city - Explore about Greek Settlements in Anatolia
5:00 PM		Depart from Ephesos to Izmir
6:30 PM		Arrive at Izmir Adnan Menderes Airport
7:55 PM	Sun Express - XQ9128	Fly from Izmir to Gaziantep
9:35 PM		Arrive Gaziantep

10:00 PM		Check-in hotel
		Overnight in Gaziantep
29-Sep. Thursday	GAZIANTEP - URFA	
7:30 AM		Breakfast at Hotel in Gaziantep
8:30 AM		Meet at the Hotel Lobby
9:00 AM		<i>Lecture #7 on Kurdish Issues and Democratization Process in South East Turkey at ZIRVE UNIVERSITY</i>
10:00 AM		<i>Visit Zirve University: Debrief on Higher Educational System in Turkiye / Meet with President and Academicians</i>
11:30 AM		Visit Local, Historical Copper Bazaar - Bakircilar Carsisi
12:30 PM		<i>Lunch with Governor of Gaziantep: Debrief on social issues in South East part of Turkey: Kurdish-Turkish relations in the region</i>
1:30 PM		Drive to Urfa - 144 Kilometers / 90 Miles
3:00 PM		Arrive Urfa
		Visit Balikligol (Fish Pool)
		Visit Prophet Abraham's Birth Cave
		Visit Gobeklitepe (Potbelly Hill) - 12,000 years of history
6:00 PM		Check in Hotel in URFA
7:30 PM		Attend Cultural Ceremony of URFA - "Urfa Sira Geceleri "
9:00 PM		Back to Hotel - Overnight in URFA
30-Sep. Friday	MARDIN - DIYARBAKIR	
7:00 AM		Breakfast at hotel in URFA
8:00 AM		Drive to Mardin - 192 Kilometer / 119 Miles
10:30 AM		Arrive Mardin
10:30 AM		Visit Deyr ul-Zafaran Monastery
12:00 PM		Visit the Kasimiye Madrasa
12:30 PM		Lunch

2:00 PM		<i>Visit Church of Behnam - Kirkklar Kilisesi - Meet with Church Pastor to debrief on Christian life in the city</i>
3:00 PM		Visit Local Shops and experience the cultural diversity on streets *Talk with Assyrian, Kurdish, Turkish business owners
4:00 PM		<i>Meeting with Assyrian Religious Leaders - Debriefing about Assyrian minority experience in Turkiye</i>
5:00 PM		Drive to Diyarbakir - 94 Kilometer / 58 Miles
6:00 PM		Arrive Diyarbakir
6:30 PM		Visit Diyarbakir Ulu Cami / Grand Mosque of Diyarbakir - most ancient mosque in the entire Anatolia region
7:00 PM		Visit Kervansaray - The Hospitality Station
7:30 PM		Meeting with Turkish and Kurdish Businessmen to talk about local economy
9:00 PM		Arrive at Diyarbakir Airport
9:50 PM		Fly to Istanbul
11:50 PM		Arrive at Istanbul Ataturk Airport
10:00 PM		<i>Overnight in Istanbul</i>
1-Oct. Saturday	Istanbul	
7:00 AM		Breakfast at hotel
11:20 AM	TK005	Flight to Chicago
		Arrive at Chicago O'Hare Airport - SAME DAY at 3:15 PM Central Time

* In case of any inconvenience, the best substitutes will be visited in place of the honorable hosts.

VENUES

The following is a list of cities and sites that you will visit during your trip to Turkey.



Istanbul: The former capital city of three great empires –Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman– Istanbul is a charming mixture of past and present, old and new, traditional and modern. The museums, churches, palaces, mosques and bazaars, and the sights of natural beauty seem persistent

Izmir: Beautiful Izmir, the "Pearl of the Aegean", is Turkey's third largest city and second most important port. A city of palm-lined promenades, avenues and green parks set in sweeping curves along a circular bay, Turkey's Aegean shores are among the loveliest landscapes in the country. Izmir's history goes back to 3000 B.C..



Efes: Efes (Ephesus), which is among the most famous cities of the ancient eras, shelters the wealth of all Ionian culture. Ephesus was one of the largest cities in the world during the Roman Period.

The Church of the Holy Virgin Mary was constructed here in the 2nd and 3rd centuries, and it played an important role in Christianity; this church was one of seven Churches of the Apocalypse.





Selcuk: Near the City of Selcuk is the House of the Virgin Mary. According to tradition, St. John brought Mary to Efes and a small house was built for her on Bulbuldagi (Mt. Nightingale) where she spent the last days of her life. Officially sanctioned by the Vatican, it is now a popular site of pilgrimage, visited by Christians and Muslims from all over the world.

HAGIA SOPHIA

The church of Hagia Sophia was first dedicated in 360 by Emperor Constantinus in Constantinople. Hagia Sophia served as the cathedral of the city. After riots damaged the structure, Emperor Justinian I ordered the church rebuilt in 537. After Mehmed II's conquest of the city in 1453, Hagia Sophia was converted to a mosque. In 1934, the Turkish government secularized the building, converting it into a museum.

BLUE MOSQUE (Sultanahmet Mosque)

In the 17th century, Sultan Ahmet I wished to build a mosque to rival the Hagia Sophia, and this mosque named after him is the impressive result. Sultan Ahmet died only a year after the completion of his masterpiece, at the age of 27. One of the most notable features of the Blue Mosque is that it has six minarets, instead of the tradition one, two or four. The interior's high ceiling is lined with about 20,000 blue tiles that give the mosque its popular name.



TOPKAPI PALACE

Topkapi Palace was home to all the Ottoman sultans until the reign of Abdulmecid I (1839-1860), a period of nearly four centuries. The order for the construction of the Topkapi Palace on the Seraglio Point, overlooking both Marmara and Bosphorus was given by Mehmed II after the conquest of Istanbul in 1453. After the reign of Mehmed II the Conqueror, the palace grew steadily to form a city like complex of buildings, courts, chambers, pavilions, and annexes.

GRAND BAZAAR

The oldest and largest covered bazaar in the world is situated in the heart of the city. It resembles a giant labyrinth with approximately sixty lanes and more than three thousand shops. Prices vary and bargaining is customary in these rather small shops. The covered bazaar is crowded and bustling the whole day. The handmade carpets and jewelry sold here are the finest examples of traditional Turkish art. Every item on sale carries its tag of authenticity and it can be shipped to anywhere in the world. Along with the carpets and jewelry, these shops offer a wide collection of high-quality Turkish silverware, copper and bronze souvenirs and decorative objects, and ceramics.



Whirling Dervishes

The ritual whirling of the dervishes is an act of love and a drama of faith. It possesses a highly structured form within which the gentle turns become increasingly dynamic as the individual dervishes strive to achieve a state of trans. The music that accompanies the whirling from beginning to end ranges from somber to rhapsodical; its effect is intended to be mesmerizing. Chanting of poetry, rhythmic rotation, and incessant music create a synthesis which, according to the faithful, induces a feeling of soaring and mystical flight.

EMBASSY AND CONSULATE INFORMATION

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Fax: (90-312) 467-0019

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U.S. Consulate General – Istanbul

İstinye Mahallesi, Kaplıcalar Mevkii No.2

İstinye 34460 - Istanbul / Turkey

Phone: (90) 212-335 90 00

Fax: (90-212) 335-9198

E-mail: acs_istanbul@state.gov

USEFUL INFORMATION

Time: Local time is equal to GMT + 2 hours. Same time zone all over the country (seven hours ahead of U.S. eastern standard time).

Electricity: 220 volts a.c. throughout Turkey

Weights and Measures: Metric and Kilo system

American Hospital in Istanbul

Güzelbahçe St. No:20 Nişantaşı/İstanbul /Turkey

Phone: +90 212 311 20 00 – 7511